

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:333

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2016

Bulk Drugs

Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the country's dependency on imports from China for bulk drugs and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the share of domestic contribution and that of China in meeting the demand of bulk drugs in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has recently introduced a draft policy on bulk drugs in order to boost its domestic production and if so, the details thereof along with its key features; and
- (d) the details of the existing manufacturing facilities for bulk drugs in the country along with the steps proposed in the policy to improve their performances?

Answer

MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI ANANTHKUMAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to reply to LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 333 to be answered on 9th August, 2016 regarding Bulk Drugs

(a): Yes, Madam. The imports of Bulk Drugs including from China are mainly done on economic considerations.

(b): The data relating to bulk drug production in the country is not maintained in the Department. However, as per the Boston Consultancy Group Report of October, 2013, the production of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) was about Rupees 65,000 Crores. The report mentions that approximately Rupees 23168 crores of APIs and advance Intermediates were imported in 2013. The imports from China amounted to 60%. In certain cases, the country is dependent on imports of bulk drugs for producing certain essential medicines. However, in some cases, these imports are taking place because of economic considerations.

(c): No, Madam. But the Government is facilitating and promoting Bulk Drug Industry through various measures.

(d): The Bulk Drug manufacturing facilities are at present mainly concentrated in Andhra Pradesh, Telengana and Gujarat. To further encourage domestic production of bulk drugs, the Government has on 28 January, 2016 notified the withdrawal of exemption in customs duties which were earlier given to certain categories of drugs and bulk drugs.

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